

1300665208

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Old Brick Baptist Church

AND/OR COMMON

Old Brick Baptist Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West side of Maryland 165 about 0.4 miles north of Putnam Road

CITY, TOWN

Jarrettsville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford County

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

this church is rarely used.

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Trustees of the Mt. Carmel Primitive Baptist Telephone #: 672-6719

STREET & NUMBER

Churchville Road

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

VICINITY OF Fountain Green

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of Circuit Court

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

40 S. Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

NA-66

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☒ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☐ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Brick Baptist Church is located near Winter's Run, approximately .4 miles north of Putnam Road. The structure faces east.

This is a small, Flemish bond brick church, one story high and 3 bays by 3. It has a central chimney of corbelled brick which accommodates a flue from a stove standing in the center of the large room. The gable flank roof is covered with slate and has box cornices. The two windows on the east side are 15 lights over 15. The double hung doors in the center bay are wood with five moulded panels on each. Brick arches can be seen above the windows and door on this side. A high, semi-circular arch is directly above a low semi-elliptical arch. Above the door, near the roof line, is a datestone. The datestone has a semi-circular brick arch above it and it reads "1787 B.M."

On the North and south sides, windows are 12 lights over 12 with a semi-elliptical arch over each. Double hung doors are wood and have 4 moulded panels on each. On the south side two windows are located at the top of the gable end. These windows have wood plank shutters and these are always closed.

The west side windows on the first elevation are 12 lights over 12. Between these, on a higher elevation, are two windows, 1 light over 1. Inside, the windows are over the altar. There is no door on the west side.

A moulded water table appears on all but the west side, it having a plain table. Stone slabs serve as steps at all doors.

A small, wood frame structure stands next to the church on the west side.

This brick church has been painted an unflattering brick red color. Paint on doors and window sills is peeling. The church is rarely used and is still in good condition despite the bad paint job. It should be noted that the building was painted in between Miss Ewing's survey and the present one. Ewing's slide, catalogue # 7448, shows how the building should have been kept.

A dense cemetery surrounds the church.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of this small church lies in the history of religion in Harford County and Maryland as well as in its architectural style.

Considered to be the Mother church of many Baptist missions in Maryland, It was first established when Harford was a part of Baltimore County. The Baptists were few in provincial Maryland. By 1701, a group of Welsh Baptists had settled on a swampy tract of land in Cecil County known as the Welsh Tract. About 1704 they founded a church at Iron Hill, said to be the third Baptist Church in America. In 1709 a representative of the General Baptists visited Maryland and as a result, in 1742, the first Baptist Church in Maryland was founded at Chestnut Ridge, on Falls Road, north west of Baltimore by Henry Slater (now called Slater Baptist Church). Twelve years later, missionaries from there, led by Elder John Davis, began a congregation called "the Harford Church."

A copy of a summary of the Church's records appears in Joseph Watts' The Rise and Progress of Maryland Baptists. The record, written in October, 1803, states the following: "The Church of Jesus Christ in Harford County, in the State of Maryland, was constituted on the first day of November in the year of Our Lord One Thousand seven hundred and fifty-four, then under the pastoral care of Elder John Davis who still continues to preside over her..." This summary was necessary because earlier records had "become so defaced that the true state of the said Church from time to time since her constitution up to this Date cannot be known..." It is also mentioned that the Church was enrolled in the Philadelphia Association of Baptists as early as 1755.

In 1839, during the term of the Reverend William Wilson, a dispute arose as to the attitude of the church toward temperance societies and benevolent institutions, and a division was made in the congregation. The elder, William Wilson, left his charge, with a number of his congregation, and thereafter officiated and had his church building at Rock Ridge, or Cherry Hill, which had been built a short time previously. Land Records show a deed on November 18, 1833, by Stephen Rigdon to the following trustees: John Devoe, Martin Grafton, James Jenkins and Stephen Rigdon. These trustees were deeded a tract of land called "Crook in the Lot", consisting of 2 acres including a meeting house.

This separation continued for a number of years. A mention in the trustees' minutes of the Brick Baptist Church for November 1859 indicates that this body still claimed some authority over the Rock Ridge Church, and further expressed a desire that the Rock Ridge group return to Old Brick.

The Baptists' fields of expansion were largely outside of the State of Maryland. Although the Baptists had increased their total membership from less than 10,000 at the period of the Revolution to over 100,000 at the close of the century, the Baltimore Association of Baptist Churches contained in 1792 only 6 churches. This included those located in Washington D.C. As late as 1795, only 628 members are shown to be living in Maryland. The Baptist influence which strongly opposed the union of Church and State and was so powerful in Virginia, was almost negligible in Maryland during the controver-

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Preston, Walter W.; History of Harford County, 1901, Press of Sun Book Office, Baltimore, Maryland. pp. 189 - 193.
 Bicentennial Commission; Jarrettsville, Past and Present. Jarrettsville Lions Club. p. 9. (Received information provided in Watts' Rise and Progress of Maryland Baptists from this booklet.).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY APPROXIMATELY 2 ACRES

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan M. Deeney, Field Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic District Commission

DATE

9/1/76

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

838-6000 ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

sial years from 1783 - 1786.

Elder John Davis, the founding father of this congregation, was a well respected man in this neighborhood. He was minister in charge from the building of the Church in 1754 until the time of his death in 1807. He was one of ten men elected at Francis Dine's on February 10, 1775, to represent Bush River Upper Hundred on the Harford Revolutionary Committee. Isaac Backus, an important Baptist from New England, is said to have visited the "Baptist Church at Winter's Run" in 1774. Elder Davis is buried with his wife in the cemetery of the Brick Baptist Church, as well as many other then prominent Harford Countians.

The building is of meeting house design and by the records in the church minutes it is believed that the building was constructed in 1754. The church was remodelled in 1787. A floor was added and other repairs were made. Changes are evident in the brick work around the windows. The high, Roman arched windows were changed to rectangular shape. The original yellow poplar seats put together with wooden pegs are still intact. However, about 60 years ago, the early sound board over the pulpit remains, but lowered.

Tradition has it that the bricks were brought from England but many historians have attempted to discredit this notion because of the absurdity of bringing such materials so far when excellent clay was so easily obtained near by.

It is my opinion that intervention is necessary to maintain the building's appearance. In order to retain the original color and texture of the brick surface, some method of paint removal should be employed. This old church should be cleaned by the gentlest method possible.

The meeting house design lends itself to many different uses.

This building sustained \$ 12,000 worth of damage during Hurricane Agnes and was completely restored through the efforts of the congregation. Mrs. William F. Swift established a fund for the perpetual care of the cemetery. And this is self-supporting. Mrs. Swift had been clerk and treasurer before her death.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES, CONTINUED

Harford County Directory, 1953. pp. 367 - 368.

Wright, C. Milton; 1967, French - Bray Printing Company, Baltimore. pp. 227 - 228.
Our Harford Heritage

Werline, Albert Warwick; 1948, The College Press, South Lancaster, Mass. pp. 80, 81, 181, 182, .
Problems of Church and State in Maryland

The Church holds monthly meetings on the second Sunday of every month, at 2:30 p.m.

